

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 LONDON 06861 01 OF 03 271807Z  
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 A-01 SS-15 NSC-05 INR-07 /041 W  
-----271920Z 015644 /53

R 271802Z APR 77  
FM AMEMBASSY LONDON  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3150

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SECTION 01 OF 03 LONDON 06861

WHITE HOUSE FOR APPOINTMENTS SECRETARY AND ADVANCE  
OFFICE (HECKMAN)  
STATE FOR A & EUR/NE

E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: OVIP (CARTER, JIMMY),OCON.PFOR.UK  
SUBJECT: PRESIDENT'S TRIP TO EUROPE: VISIT TO NORTHEAST  
ENGLAND

REF: STATE 91873

THE FOLLOWING CHANGES ARE RECOMMENDED TO TEXT CONTAINED  
REFTEL.

1. CHANGE TITLE TO "NORTHEAST ENGLAND."
2. IN GEOGRAPHY SECTION:
  - (A) CHANGE "NORTHERN ENGLAND" TO "NORTHEAST ENGLAND."
  - (B) DELETE PARENTHETICAL PHRASE BEGINNING "AND GENERALLY  
CONSERVATIVE. . ."
3. IN POLITICAL SECTION:

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PAGE 02 LONDON 06861 01 OF 03 271807Z

- (A) THE FIFTH SENTENCE, BEGINNING "THE MOST PROMIN-  
ENT. . ." SHOULD BE DELETED. TED SHORT WAS ELEVATED  
TO THE HOUSE OF LORDS LAST YEAR.
- (B) IN THE LAST SENTENCE INSERT THE PHRASE "AS EXPECTED"  
AFTER THE WORD "IF".

(C) ADD FOLLOWING AT THE END OF THE PARAGRAPH:

"ALTHOUGH GENERALLY MODERATE AND LOYAL TO THEIR PARTY'S LEADERSHIP, SOME NORTHEASTERN LABOR MPS RECENTLY OPPOSED THE LABOR GOVERNMENT'S PLANS TO DECENTRALIZE GOVERNMENTAL POWER TO ELECTED ASSEMBLIES IN SCOTLAND AND WALES (DEVOLUTION) ON GROUNDS THAT SUCH ACTION WOULD LEAVE THE NORTHEAST IN A RELATIVELY DISADVANTAGED POSITION. THEIR OPPOSITION TO THE GOVERNMENT'S INITIATIVE WAS LARGELY RESPONSIBLE FOR ITS FAILURE TO PASS THE HOUSE OF COMMONS."

4. SUGGEST FOLLOWING TEXT ON WASHINGTON OLD HALL REPLACE THAT CONTAINED REFTEL:

"WASHINGTON OLD HALL IS A 17TH CENTURY JACOBAN MANOR CONTAINING PORTIONS OF THE ORIGINAL WASHINGTON HOUSE BELONGING TO THE FIRST RECORDED MEMBER OF THE WASHINGTON FAMILY. SPECIFICALLY, WASHINGTON OLD HALL WAS THE RESIDENCE OF THE WASHINGTONS FROM 1183 TO 1399. IN 1183 IT WAS EITHER BOUGHT OR BUILT BY WILLIAM DE HERTBURN WHO CHANGED HIS NAME TO WILLIAM DE WESSYNGTON, LATER ANGLICIZED TO WASHINGTON. THE MANOR PASSED INTO THE HANDS OF A COLLATERAL BRANCH OF THE WASHINGTON FAMILY IN 1399. IN 1613 IT WAS SOLD TO THE BISHOP OF DURHAM AND PARTIALLY DEMOLISHED. ALTHOUGH THE EXISTING STRUCTURE IS NOW PRIMARILY 17TH CENTURY, RENOVATIONS IN THE 1930S REVEALED THAT PORTIONS OF THE ORIGINAL MEDIEVAL BUILDING REMAIN, PARTICULARLY IN THE KITCHEN AREA.  
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PAGE 03 LONDON 06861 01 OF 03 271807Z

"THE REBUILDING WAS LARGELY THE RESULT OF EFFORTS OF THE PRESERVATION COMMITTEE, FOUNDED IN 1936 AND ENDOWED BY BENEFACTORS ON BOTH SIDES OF THE ATLANTIC. FURNISHINGS AND DECORATIONS IN THE HALL HAVE BEEN DONATED BY VARIOUS INDIVIDUALS. CHAPTER XI OF THE COLONIAL DAMES OF AMERICA PRESENTED THE 18TH CENTURY GATES. THE ROSE GARDEN IN FRONT OF WASHINGTON OLD HALL AND THE JACOBAN PANELLING WERE GIFTS OF MABEL CHOATE OF THE UNITED STATES. IN 1955 OLD HALL WAS INITIALLY OPENED AS AN HISTORIC SITE AND IN 1957 IT WAS GIVEN TO THE NATIONAL TRUST (A CENTRAL GOVERNMENT BODY).

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PAGE 01 LONDON 06861 02 OF 03 271831Z  
ACTION EUR-12

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LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SECTION 02 OF 03 LONDON 06861

"IN ONE OF MANY GENEROUS AND IMAGINATIVE GESTURES BY THE  
BRITISH TO MARK THE BICENTENNIAL, A TWENTY-ONE YEAR  
LEASE ON WASHINGTON OLD HALL (WITHOUT ADMINISTRATIVE OR  
FISCAL "STRINGS") WAS GIVEN TO THE U.S. IN A CEREMONY IN  
WASHINGTON IN 1975."

5. SUGGEST FOLLOWING TEXT ON CORNING REPLACE REFTEL:

"CORNING UNITED (FORMERLY KNOWN AS JAMES A. JOBLING  
COMPANY LTD.) OPERATES THE CORNING GLASS PLANT IN SUNDER-  
LAND, REFERRED TO LOCALLY AS THE WEAR GLASS WORKS (WORKS  
BEING BRITISH USAGE FOR PLANT). THE SUNDERLAND PLANT IS  
THE CORNING GROUP'S HEADQUARTERS AND PRODUCES AND MAR-  
KETS PYREX AND PYROFLAN BRAND TABLEWARE AND OVENWARE.  
IT ALSO PRODUCES LABORATORY AND SCIENTIFIC TUBING, INDUS-  
TRIAL GLASSWARE AND COMPONENTS, AS WELL AS GLASS FOR THE  
ELECTRONICS INDUSTRY. THE CORNING GROUP, WHICH IS A  
SUBSIDIARY OF CORNING INTERNATIONAL CORPORATION OF NEW  
YORK, EMPLOYS 3,930 WORKERS AND OPERATES SEVEN BRANCHES  
IN THE UK. SALES IN 1975 TOTALLED 55 MILLION DOLLARS,

17 MILLION DOLLARS OF WHICH WERE EXPORTS. THE MANAGE-  
MENT HAS AN EXCELLENT REPUTATION AND THE COMPANY ENJOYS  
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PAGE 02 LONDON 06861 02 OF 03 271831Z

GENERALLY GOOD RELATIONS WITH LABOR UNIONS.

"THE UNITED STATES REMAINS BY FAR THE LARGEST DIRECT  
INVESTOR IN THE UNITED KINGDOM. IN 1975 ASSETS OF U.S.

COMPANIES TOTALLED 13.9 BILLION DOLLARS AT BOOK VALUE. U.S. MANUFACTURING AFFILIATES IN THE UK IN RECENT YEARS ACCOUNTED FOR APPROXIMATELY 12 PERCENT OF ALL UK MANUFACTURING OUTPUT, 16 PERCENT OF UK EXPORTS AND 9 PERCENT OF TOTAL LABOR FORCE. U.S. FIRMS GENERALLY HAVE GOOD REPUTATIONS FOR EFFICIENCY OF PRODUCTION AND BETTER-THAN-AVERAGE LABOR RELATIONS."

6. SUGGEST FOLLOWING TEXT ON ECONOMICS REPLACE REFTEL:

THE NORTHEASTERN REGION COVERS AN AREA OF ABOUT 6,000 SQUARE MILES, WITH A POPULATION OF 3-1/4 MILLION, AND HAS ONE OF THE HIGHEST UNEMPLOYMENT RATES IN THE UNITED KINGDOM: 9 PERCENT VERSUS THE NATIONAL AVERAGE OF 5.6 PERCENT. TRADITIONALLY, THE AREA HAS BEEN MORE DEPENDENT ON LONG ESTABLISHED HEAVY INDUSTRY SUCH AS COAL MINING, IRON AND STEEL, SHIPBUILDING AND ENGINEERING THAN OTHER REGIONS. MORE RECENTLY A MORE DIVERSIFIED INDUSTRIAL STRUCTURE HAS BEGUN TO EMERGE, INCLUDING PETROCHEMICALS, ELECTRONICS, LIGHT ENGINEERING, PHARMACEUTICALS AND NUCLEAR POWER. GLASS MANUFACTURING AT CORNING IS A BLEND OF A TRADITIONAL INDUSTRY SUPPLYING A MODERN ONE, THE ELECTRONICS INDUSTRY.

SOME OF THE UK'S MOST WELL KNOWN FIRMS ARE PRESENT IN THIS AREA. THE PETROCHEMICAL GIANT, IMPERIAL CHEMICALS INDUSTRIES, IS INVESTING IN AN ETHYLENE CRACKER (USING NORTH SEA NATURAL GAS AS FEEDSTOCK) WHILE BRITISH PETROLEUM (BP) IS CONSTRUCTING A 300,000 TON-A-YEAR AMMONIA UNIT. U.S. FIRMS MONSANTO AND ROHM AND HAAS ARE ALSO EXPANDING THEIR LOCAL FACILITIES. BRITISH STEEL'S MOST MODERN STEEL WORKS AT LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PAGE 03 LONDON 06861 02 OF 03 271831Z

REDCAR (SOUTH TEESIDE) FEATURES FULLY COMPUTERIZED OVENS. LEADING SHIPYARDS IN THE REGION--SWAN-HUNTER GROUP (TYNESIDE) AND AUSTIN PICHERGILL (TEESIDE)--PLUS SMALLER GROUPS ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR ABOUT 50 PERCENT OF TOTAL UK SHIPBUILDING TONNAGE. THE BOOMING UK OFFSHORE INDUSTRY IS SUPPORTED BY TYNESIDE'S HOWDON YARD (PLATFORM MODULES), AND LAING OFFSHORE AND REDOATH-DORMAN (STEEL PLATFORMS). IT IS NOTEWORTHY THAT THE WHOLE AREA EXCEPT FOR A SMALL PORTION OF TYNESIDE WAS CONVERTED TO NATURAL GAS BY LATE 1975, AND MORE THAN 80 PERCENT OF NEW HOUSES IN THE NORTHEAST HAVE GAS CENTRAL HEATING.

7. WHILE NOT REQUESTED IN REFTEL. FOLLOWING IS HISTORICAL BACKGROUND OF AREA OF ENGLAND THAT THE PRESIDENT WILL BE VISITING, INCLUDING SOME SPECIFIC MATERIAL ON THE CITY OF NEWCASTLE:

NEWCASTLE IS LOCATED IN NORTHUMBRIA, THE AREA JUST SOUTH OF SCOTLAND BETWEEN THE NORTH SEA TO THE EAST AND THE PENNINE HILLS TO THE WEST. DURING THE ROMAN PERIOD THIS

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PAGE 01 LONDON 06861 03 OF 03 271821Z  
ACTION EUR-12

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LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SECTION 03 OF 03 LONDON 06861

AREA WAS IMPORTANT IN DEFENDING BRITAIN FROM THE CELTIC TRIBES TO THE NORTH. REMAINS OF HADRIAN'S WALL, ROMAN FORTIFICATIONS AND ROMAN ROADS CAN STILL BE SEEN IN THE AREA. WITH THE DECLINE OF ROMAN INFLUENCE DURING THE 4TH CENTURY, ANGLES AND SAXONS MOVED ACROSS THE NORTH SEA AND SETTLED AS FARMERS IN THE AREA. NORTHUMBRIA HAS BEEN GENERALLY A LAND OF STRIFE. DANISH RAIDERS PLUNDERED THE FARMING SETTLEMENTS; WILLIAM THE CONQUEROR LAID WASTE THE SAXON KINGDOM WHEN IT DID NOT SUBMIT TO HIS RULE. UNTIL SCOTLAND WAS FINALLY UNITED TO ENGLAND IN 1707, NORTHUMBRIA WAS A NO-MAN'S LAND RAVAGED BY RAIDERS AND MILITARY CAMPAIGNS. IN THE 18TH CENTURY THE AREA WAS STILL PRIMARILY AGRICULTURAL. VARIOUS INNOVATIONS WERE INTRODUCED SUCH AS CROP ROTATION, NEW BREEDS OF STOCK AND FARM MACHINERY. THE INDUSTRIAL REVOLUTION TRANSFORMED THE COMMUNITY INTO A COAL MINING AND INDUSTRIAL COMPLEX. THE PREDOMINANT OLDER INDUSTRIES INCLUDE GLASS MAKING, SHIP BUILDING, TEXTILES. AND IRON WORKS.

THE CITY OF NEWCASTLE IS NAMED AFTER THE NORMAN STONE CASTLE WHICH CAN STILL BE SEEN. IT WAS BUILT IN 1177 TO REPLACE THE WOODEN KEEP (CASTLE) WHICH GUARDED THE FORD ON THE RIVER TYNE. FORTIFICATIONS AND A BRIDGE

HAVE EXISTED ON THIS SITE SINCE HADRIAN'S TIME. IN 1216  
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PAGE 02 LONDON 06861 03 OF 03 271821Z

KING JOHN CHARTERED THE TOWN. BY QUEEN ELIZABETH I'S  
TIME, IT WAS THE MAIN PORT AND COMMERCIAL CENTER IN  
NORTHEAST ENGLAND. THE CITY HAS ALWAYS PLAYED AN INTE-  
GRAL ROLE IN THE ECONOMIC CONDITIONS OF THE AREA; IT  
FLOURISHED THROUGHOUT THE INDUSTRIAL REVOLUTION, AND  
MORE RECENTLY IT HAS ALSO SHARED THE ECONOMIC HARDSHIP  
EXPERIENCED BY INDUSTRY IN THE NORTHEAST. RECENT PLAN-  
NING PROJECTS HAVE BEEN INSTITUTED TO ATTRACT NEW  
INDUSTRY TO THE CITY. THE NEW SHOPPING CENTER, VARIOUS  
LIGHT INDUSTRY AND THE CIVIC CENTER ARE THE PRIDE OF  
THE CITY FATHERS.  
DECONTROL 5/15/77

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## Message Attributes

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**To:** STATE  
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